



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY PROCLAIMS MAY 18 AS 'NASCAR DAY'

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has proclaimed Wednesday, May 18 as NASCAR Day in recognition of the tremendous impact the sport provides to North Carolina's economic engine as well as the spirit and excitement NASCAR brings to its many fans in the state.

"North Carolina is one of the world's leading motorsports economies and NASCAR is a huge part of that industry," said Easley. "But aside from NASCAR's economic impact, North Carolina receives national and even international coverage, spotlighting the resources, talent and fans that our state brings to the sport."

Easley said the day is an opportunity for fans to celebrate the sport they love and to help support the NASCAR Foundation Family of Charities, which consists of organizations related to NASCAR drivers, teams and tracks. In recognition of NASCAR Day, the NASCAR Foundation is sponsoring several fundraising efforts. For a list of activities and more information, visit www.nascar.com/foundation.

NASCAR Facts:

- The motorsports industry had a \$5.9 billion economic impact on North Carolina in 2005, with \$2.2 billion generated from NASCAR teams.
- The motorsports industry, including NASCAR, is one of the fastest-growing and highest-paying industries in the state with the average salary for those directly and indirectly employed by the industry at \$61,663, almost 80 percent above the state average of \$34,270.
- 82% of the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup race teams, 72% of the NASCAR Busch Series race teams and 55% of the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series race teams are headquartered in North Carolina.
- Charlotte is the home of the NASCAR Hall of Fame, which is expected to generate \$62 million annually to North Carolina's economy. The Hall of Fame is expected to open to visitors in early 2010.
- NASCAR is the number one spectator sport, holding 17 of the last 20 top attended sporting events in the U.S.
- NASCAR is the number two rated regular-season sport on television with broadcasts in over 150 countries and in 23 languages, and has 75 million fans.
- There are more than Fortune 500 companies involved in NASCAR than any other sport.